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7
8 **BEFORE THE**
BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
9 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

10 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 2009-87

11 **LAURA LEE CARSON**
12 P.O. Box 7147
San Jose, CA 95125-7147

A C C U S A T I O N

13 Registered Nurse License No. 467688

14 Respondent.

15
16 Complainant alleges:

17 **PARTIES**

18 1. Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H, R.N. (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely
19 in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing.

20 2. On or about August 31, 1991, the Board of Registered Nursing issued
21 Registered Nurse License Number 467688 to Laura Lee Carson (Respondent). The Registered
22 Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and
23 will expire on October 31, 2008, unless renewed.

24 **JURISDICTION**

25 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Registered Nursing, under
26 the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions
27 Code unless otherwise indicated.
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1 Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as
2 defined in Section 4022.

3 “(b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with
4 Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as
5 defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or
6 injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use
7 impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her
8 license.

9 “(c) Be convicted of a criminal offense involving the prescription, consumption,
10 or self-administration of any of the substances described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this
11 section, or the possession of, or falsification of a record pertaining to, the substances described in
12 subdivision (a) of this section, in which event the record of the conviction is conclusive evidence
13 thereof.

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15 8. Section 490 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that a board may
16 suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime
17 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for
18 which the license was issued.

19 9. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1442, states:

20 "As used in Section 2761 of the code, 'gross negligence' includes an extreme
21 departure from the standard of care which, under similar circumstances, would have ordinarily
22 been exercised by a competent registered nurse. Such an extreme departure means the repeated
23 failure to provide nursing care as required or failure to provide care or to exercise ordinary
24 precaution in a single situation which the nurse knew, or should have known, could have
25 jeopardized the client's health or life."

26 10. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1443, states:

27 "As used in Section 2761 of the code, 'incompetence' means the lack of possession
28 of or the failure to exercise that degree of learning, skill, care and experience ordinarily possessed

1 and exercised by a competent registered nurse as described in Section 1443.5."

2 11. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1443.5 states:

3 "A registered nurse shall be considered to be competent when he/she consistently
4 demonstrates the ability to transfer scientific knowledge from social, biological and physical
5 sciences in applying the nursing process, as follows:

6 "(1) Formulates a nursing diagnosis through observation of the client's physical
7 condition and behavior, and through interpretation of information obtained from the client and
8 others, including the health team.

9 "(2) Formulates a care plan, in collaboration with the client, which ensures that
10 direct and indirect nursing care services provide for the client's safety, comfort, hygiene, and
11 protection, and for disease prevention and restorative measures.

12 "(3) Performs skills essential to the kind of nursing action to be taken, explains
13 the health treatment to the client and family and teaches the client and family how to care for the
14 client's health needs.

15 "(4) Delegates tasks to subordinates based on the legal scopes of practice of the
16 subordinates and on the preparation and capability needed in the tasks to be delegated, and
17 effectively supervises nursing care being given by subordinates.

18 "(5) Evaluates the effectiveness of the care plan through observation of the
19 client's physical condition and behavior, signs and symptoms of illness, and reactions to
20 treatment and through communication with the client and health team members, and modifies the
21 plan as needed.

22 "(6) Acts as the client's advocate, as circumstances require, by initiating action to
23 improve health care or to change decisions or activities which are against the interests or wishes
24 of the client, and by giving the client the opportunity to make informed decisions about health
25 care before it is provided."

26 12. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444, states, in pertinent
27 part, that a conviction or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications,
28 functions or duties of a registered nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences the present or

potential unfitness of a registered nurse to practice in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare.

13. Section 4060 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that no person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished to a person upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, or veterinarian, or furnished pursuant to a drug order issued by a certified nurse-midwife pursuant to Section 2746.51, a nurse practitioner pursuant to Section 2836.1, or a physician assistant pursuant to Section 3502.1.

14. Section 11173(a) of the Health and Safety Code states that "[n]o person shall obtain or attempt to obtain controlled substances, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of or prescription for controlled substances, (1) by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge; or (2) by the concealment of a material fact."

15. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

16. **Lorazepam**, also known as **Ativan**, is a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(16) and a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is indicated for the treatment of anxiety and depression and/or acute alcohol withdrawal symptoms.

17. **Lomotil** is a Schedule V controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055(c)(7) and a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Profession Code section 4022. It is indicated for the treatment of diarrhea.

18. **Vicodin** is a Schedule III controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11056(e)(4). It is classified as a narcotic analgesic/opiate agonist. It is indicated for the treatment of pain.

19. **Xanax** is a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(1) and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions

1 Code section 4022. It is indicated for the treatment of anxiety and depression.

2 20. **"Morphine" or "Morphine Sulfate"** is a phenanthrene-derivative agonist
3 and the principal alkaloid of opium. It is an analgesic used to relieve severe, acute pain or
4 moderate to severe, chronic pain. It is also used for preoperative sedation or as a supplement to
5 anesthesia. Morphine Sulfate is a Schedule II controlled substance as designated by Health and
6 Safety Code section 11055(b)(1)(M) and a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions
7 Code section 4022.

8 21. **Hydromorphone Hydrochloride**, also known by the brand name
9 **Dilaudid**, is a semi-synthetic opioid derivative. It is a Schedule II controlled substance as
10 designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055(b)(1)(K) and a dangerous drug pursuant to
11 Business and Professions Code section 4022. Hydromorphone hydrochloride is an analgesic used
12 in the relief of moderate to severe pain.

13 22. **Oxazepam** is a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by Health
14 and Safety Code section 11057(d)(23). It is often prescribed for anxiety disorders.

15 23. **Temazepam** is a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by
16 Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(29). It is often prescribed for insomnia.

17 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

18 **(Gross Negligence)**

19 24. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
20 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about September 30, 2004,
21 while on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at Santa Clara Valley Medical
22 Center (SCVMC), Respondent was guilty of gross negligence, within the meaning of Title 16,
23 California Code of Regulations section 1442, when she assumed the care of Patient M.B.¹, in the
24 following respects:

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28 1. Initials are used in order to preserve confidentiality. Full patient names will be disclosed pursuant to a request for discovery.

1 a. Respondent failed to assess Patient M.B.'s hypotensive state and failed to
2 initiate the appropriate interventions.

3 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

4 **(Gross Negligence)**

5 25. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
6 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 4, 2005, while
7 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
8 gross negligence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 1442,
9 when she assumed the care of Patient I.P., in the following respects:

10 a. Respondent failed to assess Patient I.P.'s hypotensive state and failed to
11 initiate the appropriate interventions.

12 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Incompetence)**

14 26. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
15 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 4, 2005, while
16 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
17 incompetence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 1443,
18 when she assumed the care of Patient M.G., in the following respects:

19 a. Respondent administered Lorazepam to Patient M.G. instead of the
20 indicated medication, Lomotil.

21 b. Respondent failed to chart the administration of Lorazepam in the
22 Controlled Drug Record in a timely manner.

23 **FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

24 **(Charting Errors)**

25 27. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a) of the
26 Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined by section 2762(e) of the Code, in
27 that on or about January 4, 2005, while on duty as a registered nurse at SCVMC, she falsified,
28 made grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in hospital and/or patient

1 records in the following respects:

2 a. Respondent withdrew 1 tablet of Lorazepam, charted that she
3 administered 0.5 mg. or ½ tablet of Lorazepam to Patient M.G., but failed to account for the
4 remaining 0.5 mg. of Lorazepam.

5 **FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

6 **(Gross Negligence)**

7 28. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
8 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 20, 2005, while
9 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
10 gross negligence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 1442,
11 when she assumed the care of Patient J.H., in the following respects:

12 a. Respondent placed Patient J.H. on a 1 millequivalent potassium bath,
13 when the physician's order was for a 3 millequivalent potassium bath.

14 **SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

15 **(Incompetence)**

16 29. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
17 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 20, 2005, while
18 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
19 incompetence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1443, when she
20 assumed the care of Patient K.S., in the following respects:

21 a. Respondent charted a post-dialysis weight for Patient K.S. which was 8.7
22 kilograms heavier than Patient K.S.' pre-dialysis weight, yet failed to chart any interventions or
23 any explanation for the weight discrepancy.

24 **SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

25 **(Gross Negligence)**

26 30. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
27 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 20, 2005, while
28 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of

1 gross negligence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1442, when she
2 assumed the care of Patient R.B., in the following respects:

3 a. Respondent programmed the fluid removal on the dialysis equipment to
4 remove 6.2 liters of fluid instead of 3.5 liters of fluid for Patient R.B., when the pre-dialysis
5 assessment showed that Patient R.B. had no symptoms of fluid overload.

6 **EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

7 **(Gross Negligence)**

8 31. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
9 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 20, 2005, while
10 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
11 gross negligence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1442, when she
12 assumed the care of Patient J.G., in the following respects:

13 a. Respondent failed to clamp the saline line on the dialysis circuit when
14 Patient J.G. returned from the restroom, which could have resulted in a sudden infusion of
15 normal saline to the patient or air in the circuit.

16 **NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

17 **(Incompetence)**

18 32. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
19 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 20, 2005, while
20 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
21 incompetence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1443, when she
22 assumed the care of Patient J.G., in the following respects:

23 a. Respondent failed to accurately measure the post-dialysis blood pressure
24 of Patient J.G., despite Respondent's failure to clamp the saline line on the dialysis circuit when
25 Patient J.G. returned from the restroom.

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1 **TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Incompetence)**

3 33. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
4 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 20, 2005, while
5 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
6 incompetence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1443, when she
7 assumed the care of Patient J.G., in the following respects:

8 a. Respondent improperly asked a hemodialysis technician to report a
9 critically high post-dialysis blood pressure for Patient J.G. to a physician, despite the fact that
10 such a request was outside the scope of practice for a hemodialysis technician.

11 **ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

12 **(Incompetence)**

13 34. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
14 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 20, 2005, while
15 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
16 incompetence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1443, when she
17 assumed the care of Patient M.P., in the following respects:

18 a. Respondent connected the venous line to the arterial needle during a "rinse
19 on" procedure for Patient M.P. that could have resulted in the infusion of additional saline into
20 the patient or air in the arterial line.

21 **TWELFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

22 **(Incompetence)**

23 35. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
24 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 21, 2005, while
25 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
26 incompetence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1443, when she
27 assumed the care of Patient V.A., in the following respects:

28 / / /

1 a. Respondent left the arterial line clamped while attempting a “rinse on”
2 procedure on Patient V.A., that could have resulted in the infusion of air in the arterial line.

3 **THIRTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

4 **(Incompetence)**

5 36. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
6 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 24, 2005, while
7 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
8 incompetence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1443, when she
9 assumed the care of Patient H.S., in the following respects:

10 a. Respondent improperly entered a fluid administration of 3 liters, instead of
11 300 cc.

12 **FOURTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Incompetence)**

14 37. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
15 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 24, 2005, while
16 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
17 incompetence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1443, when she
18 assumed the care of Patient S.V., in the following respects:

19 a. Respondent failed to chart the administration of Epogen and Zemplar,
20 despite the fact that Respondent created a billing record for such medications.

21 **FIFTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

22 **(Gross Negligence)**

23 38. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
24 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 24, 2005, while
25 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
26 gross negligence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1442, when she
27 assumed the care of Patient S.A., in the following respects:

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1 a. Respondent failed to recognize that the saline line was open and infusing
2 additional saline into Patient S.A. during the "rinse on" procedure.

3 **SIXTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

4 **(Incompetence)**

5 39. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
6 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 24, 2005, while
7 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
8 incompetence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1443, in the
9 following respects:

10 a. Respondent was observed wearing gloves contaminated with blood and
11 touching surfaces in the dialysis unit.

12 **SEVENTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Gross Negligence)**

14 40. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
15 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 27, 2005, while
16 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was guilty of
17 gross negligence, within the meaning of Title 16, California Code of Regulations 1442, when she
18 assumed the care of Patient L.M., in the following respects:

19 a. Respondent initiated dialysis on Patient L.M. at a high speed and failed to
20 exercise ordinary precaution to prevent the loss of blood at the end of the dialysis circuit, which
21 caused Patient L.M.'s blood to be spilled on the floor and caused the back-up of air in the venous
22 blood line. Respondent failed to remove the air from the venous line prior to connecting Patient
23 L.M. to dialysis.

24 **EIGHTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

25 **(General Unprofessional Conduct)**

26 41. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a)(1) of
27 the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about January 27, 2005, while
28 on duty as a registered nurse in the Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was under the

1 influence of a controlled substance, as follows:

2 a. Respondent started her shift at 14:30 hours and was observed to have
3 difficulty "swiping in" at the time clock. Immediately after swiping in, staff witnessed
4 Respondent bump into the walls of the hallway with her body. Respondent appeared unsteady.
5 Respondent had difficulty logging into her computer. She started to assemble patient supplies in
6 an area of the unit to which she was not assigned. Respondent appeared disoriented and drowsy
7 and her face was flushed.

8 b. Respondent was unable to properly care for Patient L.M., as detailed in
9 paragraph 40, above.

10 c. SCVMC staff called the facility's Protective Services Unit. Protective
11 Services found that Respondent was confused, disoriented and her pupils were extremely
12 "pinpointed." Respondent had difficulty keeping her eyes open, her eyelids were droopy, she had
13 difficulty responding to questions, and she stated that she was "very nervous and paranoid."

14 d. The Protective Services Unit called the Santa Clara County Sheriff's
15 Department, who concluded that Respondent was "under the influence." Respondent told a
16 Deputy that she had been arrested the previous night by the Sunnyvale Police Department for
17 driving under the influence and had spent the previous night in jail.

18 f. Respondent was placed on administrative leave on or about January 27,
19 2005 and terminated on or about May 17, 2005.

20 **NINETEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

21 **(Conviction - Substantially Related Crime)**

22 42. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 490 and/or
23 2761(f) of the Code in that she was convicted of a criminal offense which is substantially related
24 to the qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse, as defined in Title 16, California
25 Code of Regulations, section 1444, as follows:

26 a. On or about December 15, 2005, in a criminal proceeding entitled People
27 of the State of California vs. Laura Lee Carson, Superior Court of California, County of Santa
28 Clara, Palo Alto Facility, State of California, Case Number BB513101, Respondent was

1 convicted by a plea of nolo contendere of violating Vehicle Code section 23152(a) (driving under
2 the influence), a misdemeanor.

3 b. The underlying circumstances are that on or about January 25, 2005,
4 Respondent was arrested for driving under the influence of opiates. A syringe, needle and a pill
5 holder containing Vicodin and Xanax were found in Respondent's car.

6 c. Respondent was placed on three (3) years probation.

7 **TWENTIETH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

8 **(Conviction - Use of Controlled Substance)**

9 43. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a) of the
10 Code on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined by section 2762(c) of the Code, in
11 that on or about December 15, 2005, Respondent was convicted of a criminal offense involving
12 the prescription, consumption, or self-administration of a controlled substance, as set forth in
13 paragraph 42, above.

14 **TWENTY-FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

15 **(Use of Controlled Substance to a Dangerous Extent)**

16 44. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a) of the
17 Code on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined by section 2762(b) of the Code, in
18 that Respondent used controlled substances to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to
19 herself or others or to the extent that such use impaired her ability to conduct with safety to the
20 public the practice of nursing, as follows:

21 a. On about January 25, 2005, Respondent was arrested for driving under the
22 influence of opiates. A syringe, needle and a pill holder containing Vicodin and Xanax were
23 found in Respondent's car. On or about December 15, 2005, Respondent was convicted of
24 violating Vehicle Code section 23152(a) (driving under the influence), a misdemeanor, as set
25 forth in paragraph 42, above.

26 b. On or about January 27, 2005, while on duty as a registered nurse in the
27 Renal Care Center at SCVMC, Respondent was under the influence of a controlled substance, as
28 set forth in paragraph 41, above.

1 c. On or about September 19, 2007, Respondent entered the Board's
2 diversion program and admitted that while employed at Gardiner Health Clinic in San Jose,
3 California, she "self-prescribed" Vicodin and Xanax. Respondent admitted to use of Vicodin
4 and Xanax on August 25, 2007.

5 d. On or about December 26, 2007, while in the Board's diversion program,
6 Respondent had a relapse and tested positive for Nordiazepam, Oxazepam and Temazepam.

7 e. On or about January 2, 2008, while in the Board's diversion program,
8 Respondent had another relapse and tested positive for Hydromorphone, Morphine,
9 Nordiazepam, Oxazepam, and Temazepam.

10 f. On or about February 14, 2008, Respondent was terminated from the
11 Board's diversion program as a public risk.

12 **TWENTY-SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Obtaining, Possessing, and Self Administering a Controlled Substance)**

14 45. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2671(a) of the
15 Code on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined by section 2762(a) of the Code, in
16 that in on or about 2007, while employed at Gardiner Health Clinic in San Jose, California,
17 Respondent did the following:

18 a. Respondent obtained Vicodin and Xanax, controlled substances, by fraud,
19 deceit, misrepresentation, subterfuge, or by concealment of a material fact in violation of section
20 11173(a) of the Health and Safety Code, by taking the controlled substances from hospital
21 supplies for her own use.

22 b. Respondent possessed Vicodin and Xanax, controlled substances, in
23 violation of section 4060 of the Code, in that Respondent did not have a prescription for Vicodin
24 or Xanax.

25 c. Respondent self-administered unknown quantities of Vicodin and Xanax,
26 controlled substances, without lawful authority.

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1 **TWENTY-THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Use of Controlled Substances)**

3 46. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2671(a) of the
4 Code on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined by section 2762(a) of the Code, in
5 that in while in the Board's diversion program, Respondent tested positive for controlled
6 substances, as follows:

7 a. On or about December 26, 2007, Respondent tested positive for
8 Nordiazepam, Oxazepam and Temazepam.

9 b. On or about January 2, 2008, Respondent tested positive for
10 Hydromorphone, Morphine, Nordiazepam, Oxazepam, and Temazepam.

11 **PRAYER**


12 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein
13 alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

14 1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 467688, issued
15 to Laura Lee Carson.

16 2. Ordering Laura Lee Carson to pay the Board of Registered Nursing the
17 reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and
18 Professions Code section 125.3;

19 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
20

21 DATED: 10/10/08

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23 
24 RUTH ANN TERRY, M.P.H., R.N.
25 Executive Officer
26 Board of Registered Nursing
27 State of California
28 Complainant